

THE INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE

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* Applications for admission *pro hac vice* forthcoming

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION

DONALD LEO MELLEIN,
Plaintiff,

v.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA;
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Special Agent LYNNE ZELLHART,
in her individual capacity; and DOES
1 through 5, Federal Bureau of
Investigation agents in their
individual capacities,**

Defendants.

Case No. 2:23-cv-07970

**NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF
OTHER ACTIONS OR
PROCEEDINGS**

1 Plaintiff Donald Leo Mellein, hereby provides notice of pendency pursuant
2 to Local Rule 83-1.4.1.

3 The above-captioned action involves part of the subject matter of the
4 following pending action:

5 a) Description: *Snitko et al. v. United States et al.*, No. 22-56050

6 b) Court: United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

7 c) Parties:

8 Plaintiffs-Appellants

9 Paul Snitko

10 Jennifer Snitko

11 Joseph Ruiz

12 Tyler Gothier

13 Jeni Verdon-Pearsons

14 Michael Storc

15 Travis May

Defendants-Appellees

United States of America

E. Martin Estrada,
in his official capacity as Acting
United States Attorney for the
Central District of California

Donald Alway,
in his official capacity as an
Assistant Director of the Federal
Bureau of Investigation

17 d) Attorneys:

18 Plaintiffs-Appellants

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Defendants-Appellees

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e) Factual Statement: Both this lawsuit and *Snitko v. United States* originated with the government's March 22, 2021, raid of U.S. Private Vaults (USPV), a private safe-deposit box company that operated in Beverly Hills, California. *Snitko* is a class-action lawsuit about whether the Fourth Amendment permitted the government to open and search the safe-deposit boxes. This case centers on obtaining a remedy for the individual Plaintiff, who stored personal property in his safe-deposit box at USPV that was lost after the government took custody of it during the raid. The cases therefore involve different legal theories and different forms of relief, and they challenge different aspects of the government's USPV raid. The two cases will nevertheless involve some factual overlap regarding the execution of the raid and the conduct of the ensuing searches.

1 Dated: September 22, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

3 /s/ Lou Egerton-Wiley

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